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Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Letter dated 8 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Statement in Solidarity with Haiti, which was adopted at the first Latin American and Caribbean Unity Summit, held in the Mayan Riviera, Mexico, on 22 and 23 February 2010 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 70 (a).

(*Signed*) Claude **Heller**
Permanent Representative

10-28563 (E) 010410

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Annex to the letter dated 8 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Statement in solidarity with Haiti

[Original: English and Spanish]

We the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered at the Unity Summit, express our deepest sympathy to the people and Government of Haiti and deeply regret the hundreds of thousands of casualties, the millions of victims and unquantifiable damage caused to the Haitian nation by the earthquake of 12 January.

Based on this solidarity duty with the first independent nation in Latin America and the Caribbean, we ratify our commitment to contribute, to the utmost of our capacity, in the joint effort undertaken by our region and by the international community in favour of the Haitian people, in accordance with the priorities and most fundamental needs to be defined by the Government of that sister nation and with full respect to its authority and sovereignty and the principle of non-intervention in domestic affairs.

As a priority, we will support the strengthening of the Haitian State institutions, with the purpose of promoting the efficiency of the cooperation, social and economic sustainable development, the intensification of democracy and the preservation of peace and security.

We express our determination to continue cooperative efforts to overcome the grave emergency caused by the recent natural disaster and the provision of humanitarian assistance, which has benefited from the invaluable contribution of our Governments and people, and with the support of the civil society and non-governmental organizations of our countries, as well as the international organizations.

At the same time, we express the conviction that it is essential to strengthen the regional coordination, with the Government of Haiti, and international organizations and entities, to provide effective support to that country in the reconstruction efforts through the division of work and demand the arrival of the promised resources that will make possible its sustainable development in the medium and long term.

We highlight the coordinating role of the United Nations in the humanitarian assistance and reconstruction of Haiti in its early response stages, recovery, rehabilitation, and transition towards the sustainable development on its three aspects: social, economic and environmental. Said coordination has as a fundamental purpose to take advantage of the assistance and cooperation actions, as well as avoiding the fragmentation of these efforts, and that must be based on the priorities and necessities identified by the Government of Haiti.

We recognize the work of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), whose civilian, military and police personnel are providing invaluable field support to meet urgent needs, and we render tribute to its members, especially those who died on the line of duty.

We call on the States that have not already done so, to implement special migratory regularization processes in favour of Haitian citizens.

Mayan Riviera, Mexico
23 February 2010